



January 11, 2008

RE: FY 2008 DCR Partnerships Matching Funds Program

Dear Past, Present, and Prospective Partners:

On behalf of Governor Deval Patrick, I am pleased to announce the availability of \$1.5 million in state monies for a DCR Partnerships Matching Funds Program to support the parks, open spaces, and facilities managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

This program builds on the past success of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Office of Public Private Partnerships Matching Funds Program (OPPP), which has resulted in a combined investment by the Commonwealth and public and private partners of more than \$7 million in our state's environmental and recreational resources since 2004. This year, the program will be overseen by DCR in order to align it more closely with the agency's mission and to facilitate its administration.

DCR is responsible for the management and protection of 450,000 acres of public lands, including state parks and recreation areas, beaches, forests, historic sites, and parkways. Support from our public and private partners is essential to supplement the Commonwealth's capital allocations. These partnerships enable DCR to protect our natural and cultural resources and offer quality recreational services.

Through the DCR Partnerships Matching Funds Program, we are reaching out to engage our past, present, and prospective partners - DCR Friends groups, civic and community organizations, institutions and businesses, individuals, and non-state public partners - in helping us care for our extraordinary parks and open spaces assets.

The operation of the FY 2008 program will remain much the same as before:

- DCR will consider applications that will provide a match of non-state funds for capital projects at the agency's parks, open spaces, and properties
- Only monetary contributions will be matched
- Private funds must be deposited in a trust account of the agency

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston MA 02114-2119
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax
www.mass.gov/dcr



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lt. Governor

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation

- While the program aims to support projects that are expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2008), DCR will consider applications for projects that may require more than one fiscal year to plan and complete.
- DCR will manage the implementation of the projects, in close consultation with the partner(s) making the contributions.

As a new program element, this year DCR will consider providing a 2:1 match on contributions of up to and including \$25,000. This will enhance the possibility that partners who have a smaller base of financial support will have the opportunity to see their projects come to fruition. In addition, we encourage all prospective participants to share and discuss their project ideas with a representative of DCR prior to submitting an application.

We hope you consider participating in the DCR Partnerships Matching Funds Program and have enclosed for your use a Schedule for Funding, an Application, and answers to Frequently Asked Questions that address the application process, evaluative criteria, and aspects of project management. Information about the program, including projects funded in the past, can also be found at www.mass.gov.dcr. Finally, if you have questions or would like to discuss the program further, please contact Ethel Stafford at 617-626-4917 or ethel.stafford@state.ma.us.

The environmental and recreational assets of the Commonwealth are important to the health and well-being of our citizens and our state. The protection, enhancement, and restoration of these assets require shared stewardship among those who manage and those who enjoy and benefit from them.

Thanks in large part to the support many of you have given, we have made substantial progress, but much remains to be done. We welcome the opportunity to partner with you in this essential work.

Sincerely,

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.
Commissioner

Enclosures:

[FY 2008 DCR Partnerships Matching Funds Program Schedule for Funding](#)

[FY 2008 DCR Partnerships Matching Funds Program Application](#)

[FY 2008 DCR Partnerships Matching Funds Program Frequently Asked Questions](#)